

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****Date: March 23, 2009****Contact:** Jennifer Sweeney
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SACRAMENTO – The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) today announced \$3.9 million in award funds to help small local businesses create and retain jobs in ten California cities and three counties. The awards were made through the State Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

Cities and counties will receive up to \$300,000 that can be used for the following activities:

1. **Business Assistance** will fund locally operated “revolving loan” programs to provide financing for business loans that will result in the creation or retention of full-time, permanent jobs; or
2. **Microenterprise Assistance** will fund entrepreneur training and loans to low income persons operating or starting up businesses that employ five or fewer persons.

“Housing plays a key role in the State’s economic development,” said HCD Director Lynn L. Jacobs. “These awards will help get the state’s economy back on track, though loans for small businesses and construction projects – both of which will create many new jobs for Californians.

The cities and counties receiving awards estimate that 81 small businesses will be assisted; of which 52 will be microenterprise businesses. These lending activities will result in the creation of more than 75 jobs. The business assistance and microenterprise assistance activities will leverage an estimated \$1,850,815 from local and private funding sources.

A full list of recipients is below.

Awardee	Total Award
City of Angels Camp	\$300,000
City of Chowchilla	\$300,000
City of Dunsmuir	\$300,000
City of Fort Bragg	\$300,000
City of Gonzales	\$300,000

Awardee	Total Award
City of Greenfield	\$300,000
City of Holtville	\$300,000
City of Lindsay	\$300,000
Nevada City	\$300,000
Nevada County	\$300,000
Trinity County	\$300,000
Tuolumne County	\$300,000
City of Yreka	\$262,069
TOTAL	\$3,862,069

The Schwarzenegger Administration is committed to expanding housing opportunities for all Californians. The California Department of Housing and Community Development is part of the State of California, Business, Transportation and Housing Agency. For further program information, contact the Department at (916) 445-0845 or visit www.hcd.ca.gov/fa/cdbg.